

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 03524 151321Z
ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 H-01
L-03 SS-15 SY-05 /040 W
-----151336Z 089957 /46
O 151240Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3024

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FOR A ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (ADAMS, WILBERT J.)
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO WILBERT J. ADAMS

REF: (A) KINSHASA 10596 (B) KINSHASA 10534 (C) STATE 302719
(D) KINSHASA 0021

1. CONGRESSWOMAN BURKE INTERESTED.
2. AT 1300, APRIL 14, VICE CONSUL INFORMED BY ZAIRIAN MILITARY THAT MOROCCAN ADVISORS WERE BEING PLACED IN HOTEL WHERE ADAMS STAYING. MILITARY TOLD VICE CONSUL THAT ALL OCCUPANTS HAD BEEN MOVED TO OTHER HOTELS APRIL 13, EXCEPT ADAMS, WHO HAD LOCKED HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM AT 2100, APRIL 13.
3. VICE CONSUL WENT TO HOTEL TO EXPLAIN GOVERNMENT REQUEST TO ADAMS, BUT WAS UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN IF ADAMS STILL IN ROOM. MILITARY RETURNED TO EMBASSY AT 1500 AND INFORMED VICE CONSUL THAT THEY WERE GOING TO FORCIBLY ENTER ROOM. VICE CONSUL REQUESTED TO BE PRESENT IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD ADAMS AND HIS PERSONAL POSSESSIONS.
4. AT 1600 DOOR BROKEN IN BY MILITARY. ADAMS NOT PRESENT.

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MILITARY TOOK CONTROL OF POSSESSIONS AND MOVED THEM TO ANOTHER HOTEL ACROSS TOWN WHERE POSSESSIONS WERE STORED.

5. ADAMS RETURNED TO HOTEL AT 2200 AND FOUND HOTEL BEING OCCUPIED BY MOROCCAN ADVISORS. HE CALLED VICE CONSUL AT 2330 AND WAS GIVEN AN EXPLANATION OF THE EVENTS. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE SITUATION, BUT THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN READY TO

MOVE. VICE CONSUL CAME TO EMBASSY AND ACCOMPANIED ADAMS TO HOTEL WHERE POSSESSIONS STORED. ADAMS DECIDED TO REMAIN THE NIGHT AT HOTEL.

6. THROUGHOUT DISCUSSION WITH MILITARY OFFICIALS, VICE CONSUL STRESSED THAT THIS WAS AN AFFAIR BETWEEN THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE U.S. CITIZEN. VICE CONSUL REALIZED THAT HIS PRESENCE AT HOTEL WAS NOT REQUIRED AND THAT THIS MIGHT IMPLICATE HIM IN THE FORCIBLE ENTRY. HOWEVER, HE FELT THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO BE PRESENT IN THE EVENT ADAMS OR HIS PROPERTY WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. AS FEARED, MILITARY NOW CLAIMING THAT VICE CONSUL GAVE THEM PERMISSION TO ENTER ROOM. ADAMS HAS BEEN REASSURED THAT SUCH WAS NOT THE CASE, AND THAT VICE CONSUL'S PRESENCE UNDOUBTEDLY PREVENTED THE THEFT OF ALL HIS PERSONAL POSSESSIONS.

7. WILL ADVISE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.
CUTLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINSHA03524
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770131-0856
Format: TEL
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770453/aaaabuct.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6ff098a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION A
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KINSHASA 10596, 77 KINSHASA 10534, 77 STATE 302719, 77 KINSHASA 21
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2796709
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASSISTANCE TO WILBERT J. ADAMS
TAGS: CASC, (ADAMS, WILBERT J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6ff098a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009